

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES AND PROGRAMS
CHILD FIND
AVELLA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**

In compliance with state and federal law we have established and implemented procedures to identify, locate and evaluate all children who need special education programs and services because of the child's disability. This notice is to help find these children, offer assistance to parents and describe the parent's rights with regard to confidentiality or information that will be obtained during this process.

The content of this notice has been written in English. If a person does not understand any of this notice, he or she may contact the district and request an explanation.

IDENTIFICATION ACTIVITY

CHILD FIND refers to activities undertaken by public education agencies to identify, locate and evaluate children residing in the State, including attending private schools, who are suspected of having disabilities, regardless of the severity of their disability, and determine the child's need for special education and related services. The purpose is to locate these children so that a free appropriate public education (FAPE) can be made available. Services and programs are available for children who are determined to need specially designed instruction due to the following conditions: Autism, deaf-blindness, emotional disturbance, hearing impairment, mental retardation, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairment, other health impairment, specific learning disability, speech or language impairment, traumatic brain injury, and visual impairment including blindness and in the case of a child that is of preschool age, developmental delay.

IDENTIFICATION ACTIVITIES are performed to find a child who is suspected as having a disability that would interfere with his/her learning unless special education programs are made available. The screening includes: review of group data such as cumulative enrollment, conducting hearing and vision screening, assessment of student's academic functioning-ability and achievement scores, health records, informal assessments, psycho-educational testing, observation of the student displaying difficulty in behavior and determining the student's response to attempted remediation, parent input.

The school district conduction screening of students occurs at three levels:

LEVEL I: Group-based data (spring of each year): AGS-incoming kindergarten, PSSA-grades 3,4,5,6,7,8,11, Iowa Test of Basic Skills-grades 1,2, Dibels-Kindergarten,1,2, Metropolitan Readiness Test-Kindergarten, Cognitive Abilities Test-grades 1,3,5, ASVAB

LEVEL II: Sensory, motor, speech and language data-usually occurs at kindergarten screening, may be requested at any time by parent or staff.

LEVEL III: Instructional Support of Child Study Team/SAP

If you believe that your school-age child may be in need of special education services and related programs, screening and evaluation process designed to access the needs of the child and his/her eligibility are available to you at no cost, upon request. A written request can be submitted to the building principal or Superintendent of Schools, 1000 Avella Road, Avella, PA 15312.

If a preschool child is suspected of being eligible for early intervention, evaluation and services are provided by the Intermediate unit #1. Information on Early Intervention Services may be obtained by calling 1-800-328-6481.

Further information on the rights of parents and their children provision of services, evaluation and screening is available in each building and in the Special Education Office.

CONFIDENTIALITY:

All information gathered about your child is subject to the confidentiality provisions contained in federal and state law. The District has policies and procedures in effect governing the collection, maintenance, destruction and disclosure to third parties of this information. Information access and school records are available to parents, their representatives and to students eighteen years or older.